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ON THE

## Sanitary and Housing Conditions

OF THE

## Kirkham Urban District

For the Year 1937.



WALTER HADDOW, M.B.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

KIRKHAM :

PRINTED BY J. RIGBY, POULTON STREET.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

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Medical Officer of Health,

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## Sanitary and Housing Conditions

OF THE

## Kirkham Urban District,

FOR THE YEAR 1937.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Kirkham  
Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you for your consideration my Seventh Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Kirkham Urban District, for the year ended 31st December, 1937.

The statistics with regard to the number of births and deaths have again been supplied by the Registrar-General through the County Public Health Department. The Births and Deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for inward and outward transfers.

AREA.—The Area of the Kirkham Urban District is 940 statute acres.

POPULATION.—The population of the Kirkham Urban District for the year 1937, for the purposes of statistics is 4,173. The population (Census 1921) was 3,892. The 1931 Census gave the population as 4,031.

The number of inhabited houses (Census 1931) was 1,064, and 1,194 at the end of 1937 according to the rate books. These figures were 1,180 in 1936, 1,168 in 1935, 1,110 in 1934, 1,092 in 1933, 1,081 in 1932, 1,069 in 1931, 1,069 in 1930, 1,059 in 1929 and 1,040 in 1928. The number (Census 1921) was 877.

The number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1931) was 1,078 as compared with 911 in the 1921 Census.



The RATEABLE VALUE of the District was £18,944, and the sum represented by a penny rate £72.

The district is mainly an industrial one the chief occupation being cotton weaving and cotton spinning, and the work in the mills appears to predispose to rheumatic and dyspeptic ailments principally.

Approximately 14% of the insurable population were unemployed. From my own observations continued unemployment and consequent worry affects the nervous stability of some. Others on the contrary have been benefited physically by absence from the mills where conditions are not favourable to robust health. In a few the physique is below the average through lack of sufficient suitable nourishment.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

TABLE 1.

		Total	M.	F.
Live Births	Legitimate ...	55	26	29
	Illegitimate ...	1	0	1
	Total ...	56	26	30

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13·4.

Still Births ... 1 1 0

Rate per 1,000 Total (live and stillbirths) Births, 17.

Deaths ... 76 46 30

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 18·2.\*

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

From puerperal sepsis ... 0. From other puerperal causes ... 0.

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 107

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 90

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 1,000

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 10

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... 0

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ... 0

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... 0

\* A Comparability factor 1·03 is used by which the crude death rate of the area should be multiplied in order to make it comparable, from a mortality point of view, with the crude death rate of the country as a whole or with the mortality of any other local area similarly modified.

TABLE 2.

POPULATION 4,173.		Per 1,000 of ESTIMATED POPULATION.				Per 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	
Mean of 5 years.		Live Birth-rate.	Death rate.	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Death-rate from Cancer.	Maternal Mortality Rate.	Rate of Deaths under 1 year.
1932—1936	...	16·2	13·7	0·43	1·15	Nil	60
1936	...	17·0	14·4	0·23	2·13	Nil	97
1937	...	13·4	18·2	0·23	2·39	Nil	107
Increase or Decrease in 1937 on:—							
5 years' average,							
1932—1936	...	− 2·8	+ 4·5	− 0·20	+ 1·24	Nil	+ 47
Previous year	...	− 3·6	+ 3·8	Nil	+ 0·26	Nil	+ 10

BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATE—The Live Births reported by the Registrar-General as occurring in or belonging to the Urban District of Kirkham during the year ended 31st December, 1937, numbered 56 (males 26, females 30), or 16 less than in 1936. There was 1 illegitimate birth, a female. In addition to this 1 stillbirth occurred, a male and legitimate.

The birth-rate calculated on the population of 4,173 corresponded to 13·4, as compared with a rate of 17·0 in 1936; 16·1 in 1935; 17·1 in 1934; 16·6 in 1933; 14·4 in 1932; 20·8 in 1931; 13·4 in 1930; 14·6 in 1929; 15 in 1928; 18·8 in 1927; 18 in 1926; 19·5 in 1925; 19·4 in 1924; and an average of 16·2 per 1,000 per annum for the five years 1932-1936.

The provisional birth-rate for the whole of England and Wales for 1936 was 14·9 per 1,000.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE.—The number of deaths registered as belonging to the Kirkham Urban District during the year 1937 was 76 (males 46, females 30). These included 16 deaths of persons belonging to Kirkham who died outside the Urban District and excludes 1 who died in the Urban District but whose usual place of residence was elsewhere. In 1936 the nett deaths belonging to the district were 61; in 1935, 64; in 1934, 53; 1933, 53; 1932, 53; 1931, 57; 1930, 56; 1929, 61; 1928, 49; and in 1927, 58.

The death-rate for the year under report, calculated on the estimated population, was 18·2 per 1,000, as compared with 14·4 in 1936, 15·4 in 1935, 12·9 in 1934, 12·9 in 1933, 12·9 in 1932, 13·8 in 1931, 13·5 in 1930, 14·6 in 1929, and 13·7 for the mean of the 5 years 1932-1936. The provisional death-rate for the whole of England

and Wales for 1937 was 12·4 per 1,000 population. Using the modified death-rate the figure of 18·7 is the comparable rate for the Urban District.

The tabulated statement which follows, supplied by the Registrar-General, analyses the causes of deaths, distinguishing males and females :—

TABLE 3.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Males	Females
All Causes (Civilians only) .....	46	30
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	..	..
Measles .....	..	..
Scarlet Fever .....	..	..
Whooping Cough .....	..	..
Diphtheria .....	..	..
Influenza .....	2	1
Encephalitis lethargica .....	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	..	..
Tuberculosis of respiratory system..	1	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	2	1
Syphilis .....	..	..
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis .....	1	..
Cancer, Malignant Disease.....	7	3
Diabetes .....	1	..
Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c. ....	1	1
Heart Disease .....	11	8
Aneurysm .....	..	..
Other circulatory diseases.....	2	4
Bronchitis .....	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	3	1
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	..	..
Peptic ulcer .....	..	..
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years).....	..	..
Appendicitis .....	1	..
Cirrhosis of Liver.....	..	..
Other diseases of liver, etc. ....	..	..
Other digestive diseases .....	..	1
Acute and chronic nephritis.....	1	2
Puerperal sepsis .....	—	..
Other puerperal causes .....	—	..
Congenital debility and malforma- tion, premature birth .....	3	2
Senility .....	6	1
Suicide .....	2	..
Other deaths from violence .....	1	1
Other Defined Diseases .....	..	3
Causes ill-defined or unknown.....	..	..
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above):—		
Small-pox .....	..	..
Poliomyelitis .....	..	..
Polioencephalitis .....	..	..
Deaths of infants under 1 year, total	4	2
Legitimate .....	3	2
Illegitimate .....	1	..
Live Births, Total .....	26	30
Legitimate .....	26	29
Illegitimate .....	..	1
Still Births, Total .....	1	..
Legitimate .....	1	..
Illegitimate .....	..	..

Population—4,173.



## CAUSES OF DEATH.

The preceding table shows the number of deaths attributed to the principal diseases.

**PHTHISIS.**—1 death was registered as due to Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system, corresponding to a death-rate of 0·23 per 1,000. In 1936 the figure was also 0·23; in 1935, 0·48; in 1934, 0·48; in 1933, 0·73; in 1932, 0·24; and in 1931 and 1930, 0·72. The mean for the five years 1932-1936 was 0·43 per 1,000.

**BRONCHITIS AND INFLUENZA.**—Bronchitis was the cause of 2 deaths and Influenza 3. In 1936 the figures were 1 and 0; in 1935, 6 and 2; in 1934, 4 and 2; in 1933, 3 and 3; in 1932, 3 and 0; in 1931, 1 and 3; in 1930, 1 and 0; in 1929, 1 and 1; and in 1928, 1 and 1.

**PNEUMONIA.**—4 deaths were registered as due to this disease. This was 2 less than in 1936, 1 more than in 1935, 2 more than in 1934, 1 more than in 1933, 2 less than in 1932, same as in 1931, and 1 less than in 1930.

**CANCER.**—10 deaths were due to this disease. In 1936 the number was 9; in 1935, 7; in 1934, 3; in 1933, 4; in 1932, 1; in 1931, 4; and in 1930, 5.

**HEART DISEASE.**—This accounted for 19 deaths, being 6 more than in 1936, 7 more than in 1935, 13 more than in 1934, 7 more than in 1933 and 1932, 3 more than in 1931, and 12 more than in 1930.

**INFANTILE MORTALITY.**—The deaths of children under 1 year of age numbered 6 (males 4, females 2) which figure was 1 less than in 1936, 3 more than in 1935, same as in 1934, 2 more than in 1933, 5 more than in 1932, 2 more than in 1931, and 1 more than in 1930. Particulars of these deaths are given below :—

SEX.		AGE.		CAUSE OF DEATH.
M.	...	8 months	...	Broncho-Pneumonia.
M.	...	1 month	...	Spina-Bifida.
M.	...	1 month	...	Spina-Bifida.
F.	...	9 hours	...	Prematurity.
F.	...	1 hour	...	Prematurity.
M.	...	3 days	...	Convulsions.

The infantile death-rate, calculated per 1,000 registered births, corresponded to 107 as compared with 97 in 1936, 44 in 1935, 85 in 1934, 58 in 1933, 16 in 1932, 46 in 1931, 107 in 1930, 65 in 1929, and 64 in 1928. This figure is 47 above the mean of the five years 1932-1936.

The infantile death-rate for the whole of England and Wales was 58 per 1,000 registered births for the year under review.

Table No. 2 at the beginning of this report compares the birth-rate and death-rate in 1937 with the previous year and the mean for the five years 1932-1936.

There has been no excessive mortality during the year requiring comment.

There has been no noteworthy cause of sickness or invalidity in the Urban District during the year and the number of infectious diseases has been comparatively small.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

There are no hospitals in the district, but advantage is taken of those in the neighbourhood, *viz.*—

- (1) The Fylde Joint Hospital at Moss Side, near Lytham, for Infectious Diseases.
- (2) Preston, Fylde and Garstang Hospital at Elswick for Smallpox.
- (3) Elswick Sanatorium for cases of Tuberculosis.
- (4) Preston Royal Infirmary for serious accidents and surgical operations.

The Fylde Union Institution at Wesham, adjoining Kirkham, has also an Infirmary, and receives necessitous cases, and those of Maternity when required. The accommodation is very good, and is not only used by this district, but also by the Fylde Rural District, Blackpool, Fleetwood, Poulton, and Lytham-St. Annes.

The total number of inmates on 31st December, 1937, was 262 adults (124 males, 138 females) and 7 children.

With regard to hospital administration, Committees are formed consisting of representatives from the various Councils of the area.

POOR-LAW INSTITUTIONS.—As mentioned above, use is made of the Fylde Union Institution at Derby Road, Wesham.

THE COTTAGE HOMES, in Moor Street, for destitute children from the Fylde District, consist of modern semi-detached houses, each of which is under the care of a foster-mother, supervised by a Superintendent and Matron. The total number of children on 31st December, 1937, was 75 (40 boys, and 35 girls).

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—The Ambulance facilities for the district are very good.

(a) For Infectious cases: The Moss Side Isolation Hospital has a Motor Ambulance for conveyance of patients to the Hospital. The Elswick Sanatorium has also a Motor Ambulance for tuberculous patients.

(b) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases: Private Ambulances may be hired from Preston or Blackpool or locally, for those who can afford to pay the cost. The provision of such service for necessitous cases is undertaken by the Council by arrangement with a private motor ambulance hirer.

The cost of hospital treatment for infectious diseases to the local authority for two recent years has been £302 for year ending 31st March, 1936, £313 for year ending 31st March, 1937.

The construction of a cubicle block extension to the Fylde Joint Isolation Hospital is at present in hand, and should be open in the latter part of 1938.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.—A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is provided by the County Council, and is situate in Station Road.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.—Use is made of the Dispensary at Elswick Sanatorium. This is under the care of the Medical Officer of that Institution.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—The Medical Inspection of School Children is carried out in all Schools by the School Medical Officer acting under the County Council.

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.—Treatment is given at the Preston Royal Infirmary, under a scheme of the County Council.

### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

For nursing in the home there is the Kirkham and Wesham District Nursing Association. This is maintained by subscriptions from members of the Association, and employs one Nurse, who attends cases of illness, with the exception of infectious cases, in their homes in the districts of Kirkham and Wesham. No co-ordination exists with the local authority and no financial obligations fall upon the authority. Midwifery cases are not undertaken by the association.

### LABORATORY WORK.

The examination of specimens for the detection of the Diphtheria and Typhoid organisms has been carried out at the Preston Royal Infirmary Laboratory.

Specimens of sputum are sent to Elswick Sanatorium for the detection of the Tubercle Bacillus.



During the year 1937, 13 specimens of sputum were sent to Elswick for examination, of which all were negative. 6 swabs for the detection of the Diphtheria bacillus and 3 for both the Diphtheria bacillus and Haemolytic Streptococcus were sent to the Preston Royal Infirmary Laboratory. In addition to this a number of swabs were taken in Moss Side Isolation Hospital from patients belonging to the Kirkham Urban District.

### THE ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL ACTS OR GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS.

There have been no new local acts or adoption of any acts during the year.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

With the exception of 9 cases of Scarlet Fever, and 1 of Diphtheria the district was free from infectious diseases of a notifiable nature, with the exception of several of pneumonia of which only 1 was notified.

A supply of anti-toxin is kept within the district at the surgery of the Medical Officer of Health and is supplied to medical practitioners when required.

Inoculation against diphtheria was carried out. The method employed was three injections of Toxoid Anti-toxin Floccules at intervals of two weeks. 72 children ranging between the ages of 2 and 14 were inoculated. Schick testing was carried out about two months after the completed course in 67 of these. Of the 67 tested by the Schick method about 18% were found to be still susceptible to diphtheria. This number includes all which might be termed "doubtful."

### SCARLET FEVER.

Cases 9                      Deaths 0

<i>Month.</i>	<i>No. of Cases.</i>			
April	...	...	...	1
May	...	...	...	3
June	...	...	...	4
August	...	...	...	1

Of these 1 was treated at home the remainder being removed to Moss Side Hospital.

## DIPHTHERIA.

Cases 1      Deaths 0

<i>Month.</i>	<i>No. of Cases.</i>			
January	...	...	...	1

This child was treated in Moss Side Hospital and made a good recovery.

## PNEUMONIA.

Cases 1      Deaths 4

There was only 1 case of pneumonia notified and the discrepancy between the cases notified and the deaths is on account of primary pneumonia being alone notifiable.

## VACCINATIONS.

Vaccinations are performed by the Medical Officer of Health in his capacity as Public Vaccinator.

## SCHOOLS.

The medical inspection of school children under the Education Act is carried out in all Schools in the district by the School Medical Officer, acting under the County Council.

There was one case of school closure during the year as follows:-

<i>Month.</i>	<i>School.</i>	<i>Period of closure.</i>	<i>Disease.</i>
January	... Kirkham C.E.	... 2 weeks	... Influenza

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1937.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING  
THE YEAR 1937.

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED.													HOSPITAL		
	Total Cases at all Ages.	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to District.
Smallpox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	9	..	..	..	1	1	4	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	8	..
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia }																
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal pyrexia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute poliomyelitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute polio-encephalitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria contracted abroad .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
In this country .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Any other diseases notifiable in district, e.g.—Chicken-pox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles and German Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Any other disease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.....	11	..	..	1	1	1	5	1	2	..	..	..	..	4	9	..

### TUBERCULOSIS.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1 case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year.

Five cases received Sanatorium treatment as follows :—

1 each at Elswick Sanatorium, High Carley Sanatorium, Wrightington Pulmonary Hospital, Preston Royal Infirmary and Manchester Royal Infirmary.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

AGE PERIODS.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.											
0—1	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—25	...	...		...	...	..	...	..	...	1	...
25—35	...	...		1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
35—45	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
45—55	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	...	...		...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
65 and upwards	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Totals	...			1	0	0	2	1	0	2	1
				1		2		1		3	

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths was 2 to 4.

The notification of Tuberculosis in the district as a rule is good, and there has been no need to take action in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 :

There has been no action taken under these regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

No action was necessary under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.



The district is under the care of the Medical Officer of the Elswick Sanatorium. Every week, notifications of Tuberculosis (if any) are sent to the County Medical Officer. The Tuberculosis Officer visits each patient with the Medical Attendant, and, where necessary, domiciliary or sanatorium treatment is given. On the occasion of death or removal to a sanatorium, the dwellings are always disinfected.

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

There have been no occurrences of this disease during the year.

### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health : WALTER HADDOW, M.B.

Part time. Also holds the appointments of M.O.H. Fylde Rural District, M.O. Fylde Joint Isolation Hospital, Public Vaccinator, and Factory Certifying Surgeon.

Sanitary Inspector : JAMES R. HOLMES.

Part time. Also holds the appointments of Surveyor and Building Inspector.

This year the birth-rate has fallen, and the death-rate has risen. The Infantile death-rate is up on the figure for 1936, and on that of the average of the five years 1932-1936. The death-rate from tuberculosis is again low and is the same as the figure for 1936 and considerably less than the average for the five years 1932-1936. The cancer death-rate has again gone up. One must remember when comparing these rates with those for previous years that one birth or one death will make a difference in the rate of nearly 3 per 1000 per annum so that unless the difference is very marked no great significance need be attached to the differences in the rates. The apparent rise in the cancer death-rate may partly be attributed to better recognition of the disease. It is satisfactory to find the tuberculosis death-rate still low. Regarding Infantile Mortality although there was one less death than in 1936 the mortality rate was higher due to the smaller total of births.

These remarks, Gentlemen, conclude my report,

Yours obediently,

W. HADDOW, M.B.

# Kirkham Urban Sanitary Authority.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Kirkham Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting my Twenty-sixth Annual Report on the work done in the Sanitary Department during 1937.

During the year 62 notices and letters have been served with regard to the abatement of nuisances and the remedying of insanitary conditions, chief of which were defective privies, drains, backyards and houses. Frequent inspections have been made of the sanitary conveniences to the factories and schools.

## SANITARY CONDITION OF THE DISTRICT.

PUBLIC CLEANSING :—Particulars of any extension or improvement during the year.

The scavenging of the whole of the District is carried out weekly by the Council's men and covered carts under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, the ashbins being carried from the backyards and emptied direct into the carts.

10 privies have been converted into fresh-water closets. All new houses which have been built are provided with fresh-water closets, and with new houses there is an addition of 45 water closets during 1937. Two waste-water closets have been altered to fresh-water closets.

				During 1937.		During 5 years 1932—1936.
No. of Privy closets :—						
To fresh-water closets	...	...		10	...	103
To pail closets	...	...	...	—	...	—
No. of Pail closets :—						
To fresh-water closets	...	...		—	...	1
To waste-water closets	...	...		—	...	—
No. of Waste-water closets :—						
To fresh-water closets	...	...		2	...	2
No. of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles						
	...	...		26	...	112

Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing privy middens and pail closets? No.

Does the Council contribute towards the cost of conversion? No.

What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for new property? All fresh-water closets.

From June, 1912, to December 31st, 1937, 442 privies and 9 pail closets have been converted into fresh-water closets.

The whole of the cost of conversion has been borne by the property owners.

The following are the numbers of closets and ashpits at present :—

Fresh-water closets	...	...	...	1157
Waste-water closets	...	...	...	21
Pail closets	...	...	...	10
Privy closets	...	...	...	59
Privy ashpits	...	...	...	20
Dry ashpits	...	...	...	34
Ashbins ..	...	...	...	921

The pail closets and ashbins are emptied once a week, and the privies when required.

Suitable tips are provided at some distance from dwelling-houses.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—No rivers and streams pass through the district.

SEWERS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM.—The Sewerage in conjunction with that from Wesham runs to sedimentation tanks at Newton and then into the river Ribble. The sewerage tanks are cleaned out three times a year.

NEW MAIN SEWERS AND EXTENSIONS.—90 yards of 12 in. sewer, and 107 yards of 9 in. sewer and 3 manholes have been laid in Barnfield, and extensions have been made to existing sewers where building operations are in progress.

Of the 35 houses built during 1937 34 were connected to the main sewer, and 1 to septic tank.



No. of Houses connected direct to sewer	...	...	1161
„ „ „ to septic tanks	...	...	34
Estimated No. of Houses on the watercarriage system			1121

WATER SUPPLY is good and ample, and is under the control of the Fylde Water Board.

The water mains have been flushed by the Fylde Water Board's workmen at different times.

All the houses in the town are supplied with Fylde water except two Bungalows which are supplied from a well.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTIONS.

Number of cases notified of Scarlet Fever	...	9
„ „ Diphtheria	...	1
Number of disinfections after death or removal		
of tuberculosis cases	...	5
Number of Houses disinfected	...	19
„ Schools	...	4
„ Library and other books disinfected		74

All cases were visited upon receipt of notification. After the removal of patients for either hospital or sanatorium treatment the rooms were thoroughly disinfected with formalin. All cases that were treated at home were visited from time to time, disinfectants supplied, and instructions given for the proper isolation of patients to prevent the spread of the disease.

### SCHOOLS.

The Schools are inspected regularly and found satisfactory.

All the Schools are supplied with Fylde Water, and have fresh-water closets.

### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

There are 27 Workshops, 8 Bakehouses and 7 Factories in the town. Four notices to remedy nuisances have been complied with. With these exceptions the workshops have been found to comply with the requirements as regards cleanliness, air space and light.

The factories are provided with means of escape in case of fire.

There are no underground bakehouses.



1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (Including Factory Laundries) ..	21	2	..
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries) ..	55	1	..
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises) ..	2	1	..
Total .. ..	78	4	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—*				
Want of cleanliness .. ..	1	1	..	..
Want of ventilation .. ..	1	1	..	..
Overcrowding .. ..	..	..	..	..
Want of drainage of floors ..	..	..	..	..
Other nuisances .. ..	..	..	..	..
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient .. ..	..	..	..	..
{ unsuitable or defective .. ..	2	2	..	..
{ not separate for sexes .. ..	..	..	..	..
OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101) ..	..	..	..	..
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921 ..	..	..	..	..
Total .. ..	4	4	..	..

\*Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7, and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is only one lodging house, with accommodation for 42 men and 33 women. The average number in is 18. It has been

regularly inspected and well maintained. No cases of overcrowding or infectious disease have occurred here during the year.

### SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are three Registered slaughterhouses, which have been regularly visited both during slaughtering operations and after. They are all provided with a good supply of water for cleaning purposes, and the buildings have been kept clean and limewashed. All the refuse is removed in galvanised bins with covers immediately after slaughtering.

Number of Licensed Slaughtermen      ...      ...      ...      9

### CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)	...	...	...	...	...
Number inspected	...	272	4	820	72
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS. Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY. Whole carcasses condemned	...	2	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	...	.8	...	...	...

## SHELLFISH (Molluscan).

Particulars of any shellfish beds, or layings which may be in the District. None in District.

MILK SUPPLY.—Action taken with regard to milk including inspection of farms and dairies, the Administration of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1923 and 1936.

Under the Milk and Dairies Act, 1926, there are 10 Registered producers and retailers of milk, and 3 Registered retailers of milk only. 186 inspections have been made to these premises which have been kept in a clean sanitary condition.

All the Farms are supplied with Fylde Water.

Number of Registered Cheese Factories	..	...	...	1
„ Registered Cowkeepers, including Dairy Farms	...			10
„ Milk Purveyors (other than Cowkeepers)	...	...		3
„ Licences issued to Dealers in respect of Grade				
A Milk	...	...	...	3
Approximate number of dairy cows in the district	...	...		163

Part of the Milk supply is brought in by farmers from the surrounding districts.

## FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

During the year ending 31st December, 1937, the following samples were taken by the County Constabulary in the area of the Urban District :—

Description of Articles	Number of Samples.
Milk ... ..	5
Tincture of Rhubarb...	1
Cod Liver Oil ... ..	1
Raspberry Jam ... ..	1
Lancashire Cheese ... ..	1
Butter ... ..	1

A total of ten samples.

All the samples enumerated above were found on analysis to be genuine.

SHOPS.—Particulars of any action taken under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and sanitary conveniences.

All shops inspected during the year.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT. SANITARY INSPECTION.

Number of Premises visited	...	...	...	...	...	316
„ Defects or Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	68
„ Preliminary Notices served by Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	62
„ Statutory Notices served by Order of Council	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ Nuisances remedied	...	...	...	...	...	65
„ New drains tested with smoke test...	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Drains opened out and defects rectified	...	...	...	...	...	15
„ New drains and gullies put into existing property	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ Defective roofs and gutters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ Houses repaired inside	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ Cobble-paved backyards concreted	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ Black smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Ashbins provided in place of boxes	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ Inspections to factories, workshops, and bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	78

#### HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b)	35
I. By the Local Authority	34
II. By other bodies or persons	1
(b) with State Assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
I. By the Local Authority	34
II. By other bodies or persons	None
Number of houses on Rate Books	1194



## 1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

1.—(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... .. 72

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... 128

2.—(a) Number of dwelling-houses included in above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 ... 11

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... 21

3.—Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... .. 2

4.—Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... .. 52

## 2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... .. 3

## 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

## A.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10, AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

1.—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ... .. None

2.—Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices :—

(a) By owners ... .. None

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners... None

## B.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—

1.—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 12

2.—Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—

- |   |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (a) By owners                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12   |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | ... |     |     |     |     | None |

C.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

1.—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... .. None

2.—Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... .. None

D.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

1.—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ... .. None

2.—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. None

HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING :—

(a)—1. Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year ... .. 7

2. Number of families dwelling therein ... .. 7

3. Number of persons dwelling therein (including children) 53

(b)— Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... .. None

(c)—1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... .. 8

2. Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 62

(d)— Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... .. None

- (e)— Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.

The Council propose building more houses for displaced tenants in Clearance Areas and to include in their scheme sufficient houses for persons who are at present overcrowded and unable to obtain larger houses.

## HOUSING CONDITIONS.

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AS TO HOUSING CONDITIONS :—

1.—The general housing conditions are good, mostly working class houses of both parlour and non-parlour type. The worst houses are being demolished in the slum clearance areas.

Approximate number of back-to-back houses in the district :—  
None.

### 2.—SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY OF HOUSES :—

- (a) On the whole houses are reasonably rented, but for some of the poorer classes there is a shortage of low-rented houses of adequate size for large families.
- (b) Information as to any important changes in population :—  
There is no prospect of any important changes in population.
- (c) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses :—  
Suitable sites are available for new houses.

### 3.—FITNESS OF HOUSES :—

- (a) Are there any difficulties found in action under the Public Health or Housing Acts?... .. None
- (b) Special measures taken or suggested in relation to particular types of insanitary property, or in regard to arrangements for the gradual carrying out of programmes of repair :—

No Special measures taken, repairs up to now have been carried out to property without any inconvenience to the occupiers.

(c) Number of houses which have not an adequate  
internal water supply ... .. None

(d) Number of houses which have no separate water-  
closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation None

Public conveniences are provided by the Council.

4. Brief particulars of any Public or Privately owned Swimming Baths open to the Public and action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of the water :—

The town is provided with Public Baths which were built in 1914, these baths are fitted with the latest modern Method for Filtration of the Water.

#### 5. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS :—

Particulars of the action taken for the eradication of bed bugs including information as to :—

(1)—(a) I. The Number of Council houses found to be  
infested ... .. None  
II. The Number of houses disinfested ... None

(b) I. The Number of Other houses found to be  
infested ... .. 34  
II. The Number of houses disinfested ... 34

(2)—The methods employed for freeing infested houses  
from bed bugs. Fumigation with hydrogen cyanide

(3)—The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.

All belongings of tenants are placed in the London Fumigation Co.'s van and fumigated with Zyklon. After treatment the goods are delivered to the new Council houses.

(4)—Whether the work of disinfection is carried out by  
the Local Authority, or by a Contractor.

By Contract with the London Fumigation Co.  
Ltd.



(5)—The measures taken by way of supervision or education of the tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.

By inspection of new houses often ; and the appreciation of the tenants for their new houses.

#### CLEARANCE AREAS :—

- 1.—Number of clearance areas sanctioned by the Ministry, 8 ; comprising 54 houses.
- 2.—Number of areas cleared, 1 ; comprising 21 houses.

#### REHOUSING :—

Number of houses built to rehouse displaced Tenants	...	34
„ displaced tenants rehoused	... ..	21

#### IMPROVEMENT AREAS :—

Number of areas represented, 3 ; comprising 22 houses.  
 „ houses improved, 11.  
 „ houses in course of improvement, 11.

#### CHIEF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS DURING THE YEAR :—

Conversion of 10 privies into fresh-water closets and the substitution of Galvanised ashbins with covers for ashpits.

#### CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS :—

Conversion of the remainder of the privies to fresh-water closets, and ashbins for ashpits.

Demolition of property in clearance areas and new houses to rehouse displaced tenants.

I am, yours obediently,

JAMES R. HOLMES,

M.I.H., A.R.S.I., N.D.A.,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.





